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PATENT

Attorney Docket No. BSC-017CP  
(1002/29)

**Particulars of Prior Application:**

Serial No.: 09/359,335  
Filing Date: July 21, 1999  
Examiner: Kearney, R.

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANTS: Sixto et al.  
SERIAL NO.: 09/359,335 GROUP NO.: 3739  
FILING DATE: July 21, 1999 EXAMINER: R. Kearney  
TITLE: ELECTROSURGICAL TISSUE REMOVAL WITH A  
SELECTIVELY INSULATED ELECTRODE  
BOX: CPA  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Applicants respectfully submit the following Preliminary Amendment for a continued prosecution application of U.S.S.N. 09/359,335 filed herewith with fees. Please extend the date for response by one month up to and including November 17, 2001. A petition for one-month extension of time and check to cover the extension fee are enclosed. Applicants believe no additional fees are due. Should applicant be in error, please charge deposit account number 20-0531.

Prior to examination, please make the following amendments and consider the remarks below.

**AMENDMENT**

Please amend the above-identified application in the following manner:

**In the Claims:**

Please amend claims 1 and 22, as follows.